

The invention is claimed as follows:

1. A mask for the inhalation of medication by a human being, said mask being molded of plastic material or the like having an interior and a central through opening including an open front portion adapted to receive a hollow body having air with medication dispersed therein, a sidewall expanding outwardly from said front portion to a rear portion adapted to fit sealingly on a human face and covering the mouth and nose, said sidewall including a tunnel-like extension projecting outwardly of said sidewall and adapted to overlie a nose, said extension extending substantially from said rear portion toward said front portion and having a front end terminating short of said front portion of said mask, and a normally closed one-way valve adjacent said front end of said extension and communicating on one side inwardly of said mask into said extension and on the other side communicating outwardly of said mask to outside air, said exhalation valve opening on exhalation to pass exhaled air from said mask and closing in the absence of exhaled air to prevent entry of outside air.
2. A mask as set forth in claim 1 wherein said valve is positioned in its entirety short of said front portion of said mask.
3. A mask as set forth in claim 1 and further including a transverse wall adjacent the end of said nose receiving extension relatively toward the mask open front portion, said valve being through said transverse wall.

4. A mask as set forth in claim 3 wherein said valve includes an exhalation opening through said transverse wall and an adjacent anchor opening through said transverse wall, said valve including a valve closure element comprising a head and an integral stem of plastic material, said head normally covering said exhalation opening relatively toward the exterior of said mask and said stem extending into said anchor opening to anchor said head, said head resiliently moving at least in part from said exhalation opening upon exhalation.

5. A mask as set forth in claim 4 wherein said stem extends entirely through said transverse wall and has an enlargement thereon engaging said transverse wall opposite to said valve member head.

6. A mask as set forth in claim 6 wherein said head is resilient and flexes away from said exhalation opening upon exhalation.

7. A mask as set forth in claim 6 wherein there are two exhalation openings through said transverse wall and lying on opposite sides of said anchor opening, said head having an undersurface inherently concave and pulled substantially flat by said stem, said head flexing outwardly upon exhalation.

8. A mask as set forth in claim 1 wherein said exhalation valve comprises a duckbill valve extending from said front end of said extension toward said front end portion of said mask but terminating short of said front end portion.

550250" 25250450

9. A mask for inhalation of medication by a human being, said mask being molded of plastic material or the like having an interior and a through opening including a portion adapted to receive a hollow body having air with medication dispersed therein, a sidewall expanding outwardly from said front portion to a rear portion adapted to fit sealingly on a human face and covering the mouth and nose, and a normally closed one-way exhalation valve in the front portion of said mask, said valve including a passageway through said front portion and having a transverse wall comprising a valve seat, said transverse wall having an exhalation opening therethrough and an adjacent anchor opening through said transverse wall, said valve including a valve closure element comprising a head and an integral stem of plastic material, said head normally covering said exhalation opening and disposed relatively toward the exterior of said mask and said stem extending into said anchor opening to anchor said head, said head resiliently moving at least in part from said exhalation opening upon exhalation.

10. A mask as set forth in claim 9 wherein said stem extends entirely through said transverse wall and has an enlargement thereon engaging said transverse wall opposite to said valve member head.

11. A mask for the inhalation of medication by a human being, said mask being molded of plastic material or the like having an interior and a through opening including an open front portion receiving a hollow body having air with medication dispersed therein and providing a one-way inhalation valve for said mask, said inhalation valve normally being closed and opening upon inhalation, a sidewall expanding outwardly from said front portion to a rear portion adapted to fit sealingly on a human face and covering the mouth and nose, said sidewall including a forward extension projecting outwardly of said sidewall and adapted to overlie a nose, said extension extending substantially from said rear portion toward said front portion, and a normally closed one-way exhalation valve adjacent said extension, said exhalation valve opening on exhalation to pass exhaled air from said mask and closing in the absence of exhaled air to prevent entry of outside air, said inhalation valve and said exhalation valve holding air with medication in said mask for most effective utilization of said medication.

550250"25460450

12. A mask for the inhalation of medication by a human being, said mask being molded of a plastic material or the like having an interior and a central through opening including an open front portion for receiving a hollow body having aerosol with medication dispersed therein, a substantially frusto-conical sidewall expanding outwardly from said front portion to a rear portion adapted to fit sealingly on a human face and covering the mouth and nose with a minimum of dead space holding exhaled air in said mask, including a tunnel-like extension projecting outwardly of said sidewall and adapted to overlie a human nose, said extension extending substantially from said rear portion toward said front portion and having a front end terminating short of said front portion of said mask, and a normally closed one-way valve adjacent said front end of said extension for subsequent alignment with the nostril of a human nose and communication on one side inwardly of said mask into said extension and on the other side communicating outwardly of said mask to outside air, said exhalation valve having a quick acting lightweight valve extending outwardly from a central stem to provide a light weight seal on the outside edge of said valve providing a minimum resistance to exhaled air and quick response to exhalation of air and minimizing the amount of exhaled air retained by said mask to reduce the work of breathing by a human being, said exhalation valve closing in the absence of exhaled air to prevent entry of outside air.

13. A mask as set forth in claim 12 wherein said valve is positioned in its entirety short of said mask extension to reduce access to prying fingers.

14. A mask as set forth in claim 13 and further including a transverse wall adjacent the end of said nose receiving extension relatively toward the mask open front portion, an exhalation opening through said transverse wall, said valve including a valve closure member

Added
rec C2

092309 26260450